

Serial No. 10/780,725

Attorney Docket No. 11-225

REMARKS

The applicant appreciates the acknowledgement of the claim for priority under section 119 and the notice that the certified copy of the priority document has been received.

Also, the applicant acknowledges receipt of the initialed copy of the form PTO 1449 that was filed on 19 February 2004.

Claims 1-2, 5-6, 10-11 and 14 are pending. Claims 3-4, 7-9 and 12-13 are canceled.

Claims 1-2 have been withdrawn. Claims 5-6 and 10-11 are indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. The applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The specification has been amended to correct a cosmetic defect.

On page 3 of the office action, dependent claims 5-6 and 10-11 were objected to, but indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 5 and 10 have been re-written in independent form to include the subject matter of claims 3 and 8, respectively. It is respectfully submitted that claims 5 and 10 as rewritten are allowable. Claims 3 and 8 were canceled, and the other claims dependent from claims 3-8 were also canceled. In view of the above, the applicant submits that claims 5-6 and 10-11 are patentable.

The applicant has rewritten the claims in independent form since the office action indicated that claims 5-6 and 10-11 would be allowable if so re-written. However, the applicant does not concede that other features in the claims are found in the prior art. The applicant wishes to clarify for the record, if necessary, that the claims have been amended to expedite prosecution. Any narrowing amendment to the claims in the present Amendment is not to be construed as a surrender of any subject matter between the original claims and the present claims; rather this is merely an attempt at providing one or more definitions of what the applicant believes to be

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suitable patent protection. In addition, the present claims provide the intended scope of protection that the applicant is seeking for this application. Therefore, no estoppel should be presumed, and the applicant's claims are intended to include a scope of protection under the Doctrine of Equivalents.

Claims 3-4, 7-9 and 12-13 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,465,907, Ueno et al. ("Ueno"). Because claims 3-4, 7-9 and 12-13 have been canceled, the rejection is moot.

New claim 14 has been added, and is believed to be patentable for reasons including its dependency from allowable amended claim 10. Support for new claim 14 is located in the application as filed, for example, FIG. 5, elements (6a, 6b) and their circuit configurations.

For all the reasons advanced above, the applicant respectfully submits that the claims as amended are allowable.

In view of the foregoing, the applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance. A timely notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If questions relating to patentability remain, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone.

If there are any problems with the payment of fees, please charge any underpayments and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,



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